

Application 10/620,155

October 4, 2007 Reply to Office Action dated August 30, 2007

Attorney Docket P002.210

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**RECEIVED
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Please replace the paragraph on page 11, lines 8-20 with the following amended paragraph.

One of the open ends of the column, sometimes referred to herein as the open upper end of the column, is adapted for attachment to a pump. In some embodiments of the invention the upper open end is operatively attached to a pump, whereby the pump can be used for aspirating a fluid into the extraction column through the other open end of the column, and optionally for discharging fluid out through the open lower end of the column. Thus, it is a feature of the present invention that fluid enters and exits the extraction column through the same open end of the column. This is in contradistinction with the operation of some extraction columns, where fluid enters the column through one open end and exits through the other end after traveling through an extraction media, i.e., similar to conventional column chromatography. The fluid can be a liquid, such as a sample solution, wash solution or desorption solvent. ~~The fluid can also be a gas, e.g., air used to blow liquid out of the extraction column.~~

Please replace the paragraph on page 30, lines 32-34 with the following amended paragraph.

The pump should be ~~capable of pumping liquid or gas, and should be~~ sufficiently strong so as to be able to draw a desired sample solution, wash solution and/or desorption solvent through the bed of extraction media.